

DESCRIPTIONS OF NEW SPECIES OF *BOSTRYCHIDÆ*.

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The following species of the above family were obtained principally at Tamworth, while on a collecting trip for the Department of Agriculture last summer, the majority by barking Eucalypts and searching them at night-time with a light.

APATE SERRATA, n.sp.

Elongate, cylindrical, reddish-piceous, shining. Head punctate, less so on the clypeus and vertex than on the occiput; clypeal suture with a shallow slightly hairy fovea in the middle. Thorax slightly transverse, with two small depressions at the base, rough and dentate in front, and slightly punctate behind and at the sides. Scutellum dark piceous, minutely punctate. Elytra coarsely punctate, less so towards the base, rapidly sloped away at about a third from the apex, with the apical two-thirds dark piceous. The retuse portion is serrately margined all round and lightly covered with short yellowish hairs, and with the suture raised, the margins are slightly swollen in the middle, with the apex flatly projecting a short distance beyond the abdomen. Undersurface of body reddish-castaneous, minutely punctate, and clothed with a fine whitish pubescence. Antennæ reddish-testaceous, the last three joints much paler. Legs slightly hairy, very minutely punctate, reddish-testaceous, with the tibiæ reddish-piceous, the anterior and posterior dentate, and all spurred, the posterior spurs the longest. Length $4\frac{1}{2}$ -6 mm.

Gosford and Tamworth, N.S.W.

APATE SUBCOSTATA, n.sp.

Elongate, cylindrical, dark castaneous, shining. Head inclining to piceous, densely and minutely punctate; clypeus shining, with a few small punctures, and a well-marked fovea in its suture.

Thorax dark reddish-testaceous, as broad as long, with two small depressions at the base, rough and dentated in front and lightly punctate at the base and sides. Scutellum small, minutely punctate. Elytra reddish-piceous, especially towards the apex, punctate, a little less so towards the base, with the humeral angles slightly prominent, shining, and almost impunctate; midway between the suture and the humeral angle is a small costa, commencing at a little hump near the scutellum, and proceeding for about a third the length of the elytra, and invisible from above, the elytra slope rapidly down from about a third from the apex, and are margined all round, except on the upper part near the suture; the sides of the suture are raised, commencing at the slope, and gradually increasing to the apex, where they join in with, and in height are nearly equal to, the marginal rim, this in the middle is slightly wavy and minutely toothed at the apex. Undersurface of body slightly hairy, minutely punctate, and dark reddish-testaceous, the abdominal segments tinged with piceous. Legs reddish-testaceous, with the knees darker. Antennæ reddish-testaceous, shining, the three apical joints paler, opaque, and minutely pubescent. Length $4\frac{1}{4}$ -5 mm.

Tamworth.

A narrower, smaller and less hairy insect than the last, with the elytra more evenly punctured.

APATE EXCAVATA, n.sp.

♂. Of a narrow cylindrical form, shining, lightly punctate. Head dark piceous, densely punctate, with a fovea in the centre, clypeus, labrum, and a spot above the suture reddish-piceous. Thorax testaceous, longer than broad, smooth, shining and impunctate behind, and very slightly and shallowly punctate at the sides, rough and dentated in front, with two recurved black-tipped spines overhanging the head, other teeth also black-tipped. Elytra about two and a half times the length of the thorax, shining, densely but minutely punctate, pitchy, testaceous at the base, the humeral angles slightly raised, the sides straight except for an interruption in the middle; at about a third from the apex the

elytra sloped rapidly away, and, when on a level with the lateral margins, extended downwards and forwards; the retuse portion is duller than the rest of the elytra, with the punctures larger, is margined to within about a third of the suture on the upper part, with four teeth on each elytron, one near the suture, another a little further on, and at the termination of the marginal rim, both thick, and subacute, and two at the apex opposite to them, flatter and less sharply pointed; there is also on the under portion of the apex of each elytron a sharp spine, extending downwards. Undersurface of body pitchy, shining, very sparingly pubescent; the abdominal segments edged with testaceous, the apical ones excavated, with, on each side of the excavation, a broad half-raised shining lightly punctate semi-rounded plate, and in front of it two long flat reddish-testaceous bundles of hairs, appearing like obtusely pointed spines. Legs testaceous, knees and trochantins tinged with piceous. Length $5\frac{3}{4}$ mm.

Tamworth.

APATE BICOLOR, n.sp.*

Elongate, cylindrical, shining and punctate. Head black, dull, with a fovea in the centre. Thorax testaceous, darker in front than behind, about as broad as long, rough and dentated in front, with the anterior tooth recurved, behind and at the sides smooth, shining and impunctate, and minutely hairy at the base. Elytra pitchy, shining, the base tinged with testaceous, more than twice as long as the thorax, shallowly and densely punctate, obliquely truncated at about two-fifths from the apex; the retuse portion dull, slightly hairy, margined nearly all round, and punctate, the punctures larger and coarser on the upper portion, entirely disappearing towards the apex, and with two short projections on each elytron, one near the suture, the other about the same distance from it, at the termination of the marginal rim, slightly longer and extending downwards and slightly inwards; lateral margins of the elytra wavy. Undersurface of body punctate,

* Since this paper was read I have found that this is *A. excavata* (♀), having obtained a number of specimens *in copulâ* at Forest Reefs and Galston, N.S.W.

covered with a yellowish pubescence, pitchy, the abdominal segments tinged and edged with red, with the apical one entirely red. Legs, antennæ, and palpi testaceous. Length $6\frac{1}{2}$ mm.

Sydney.

Having a strong superficial resemblance to the preceding species.

APATE RETUSA, n.sp.

Oblong, reddish-piceous, shining and punctate. Head pitchy, densely punctate, with a punctate fovea in the centre of the clypeal suture, and the head lighter in colour and less punctate immediately behind it. Thorax piceous-red, darker in front than behind, slightly transverse, convex, granulated and dentate in front, smooth, shining and very minutely punctate behind and having a very minute pubescence at the base. Elytra darker than the rest of the body, except towards the base, truncated at about two-fifths from the apex, humeral angles slightly prominent and minutely punctate; balance of elytra coarsely and densely punctate, the punctures increasing in size towards the apex, and largest and deepest on the retuse portion, which is nearly black, dull, finely hairy, and margined all round, the margin very slight on the upper portion near the suture, at the middle it is produced outwards and slightly wavy, with the apex terminating in a flat projection which extends a short distance beyond the abdomen; between the suture and the humeral angle are two costæ, invisible from above and extending from the base to the declivity of each elytron. Underside of body dark reddish-testaceous, minutely punctate, more densely on the abdomen, and sparingly clothed with a fine whitish pubescence; the apical abdominal segment has a fovea in the centre, and behind it a shallower one on each side. Legs piceous-red, minutely punctate and pubescent; antennæ very little paler. Length $5\frac{3}{4}$ mm.

Tamworth.

Somewhat resembles *Rhizopertha collaris*, MacL., in appearance, but its more elongate form, and complete margin to the retuse portion of the elytra, will readily distinguish it; in that species the thorax is entirely black.

XYLOPERTHA (?) COMPRESSA, n.sp.

Oblong, picceous-red, moderately shining, punctate and clothed above and below with short erect whitish hairs. Head densely punctate, with the clypeus and mandibles black. Thorax convex, longer than wide, minutely granulated except towards the base, which is punctate. Elytra about one and a half times the length of the thorax, darker, punctate in rows, with very small punctures on the intervening spaces, roundly sloped away at about two-fifths from the apex. Abdomen punctate, second and third abdominal segments much shorter and darker than the others, which are testaceous. Legs paler, punctate, thin and flat, especially the four posterior tibiae, with all the tibiae fringed with hairs. Antennae clear reddish-testaceous. Length $3\frac{1}{4}$ mm.

Tamworth and Sydney.

XYLOPERTHA (?) HIRSUTA, n.sp.

Narrow, cylindrical, shining, punctate, reddish-testaceous, and covered with minute erect whitish hairs. Head minutely punctate. Thorax convex, longer than wide, covered with small granulations in front, shining and impunctate behind, and lightly punctate at the sides. Elytra about $1\frac{1}{4}$ times the length of the thorax, punctate in rows, the punctures very small and close together; roundly sloped away at about a third from the apex. Abdominal segments paler than the upper surface, especially in ♀, except the three apical ones, which are darker in ♂. Legs and antennae testaceous; four posterior tibiae broad, flat, dentated and fringed with hairs. Length $2\frac{3}{4}$ mm.

Tamworth, Cootamundra, Tweed and Richmond Rivers, N.S.W.

Resembling the preceding species in outline, but distinguished from it by its smaller size, narrower shape, and more uniform colouring.

XYLOPERTHA (?) PARVA, n.sp.

Of a rather narrow form. Head tinged with picceous, minutely punctate, and with a shallow fovea in the centre. Thorax testaceous, rough and slightly hairy and darker in front and smooth

but dull behind. Elytra reddish-testaceous, hairy, when looked at endways the hairs appearing in rows, minutely punctate, about $1\frac{1}{4}$ times as long as the thorax. Legs, antennæ, and undersurface of body testaceous, with the exception of the abdominal segments, which are of the same colour as the elytra and minutely punctate. All the tibiæ broad, flat, minutely dentate and hairy, the anterior less so than the four posterior. Length 2 mm.

Richmond River.

Somewhat resembles the last in appearance, but is distinguished from it by its smaller size, different colouring, and less hair, especially on the under parts.

The species described below appears to belong to a new genus; the following are its principal characters:—

AMASA, n.g.

Head invisible from above; antennæ with 10 joints, first longer than 2-7, second as long as 3-7, 8-10 transverse, forming a closely joined broad compressed club, scarcely longer than broad.

Thorax granulated.

Elytra retuse behind, not spined.

Legs compressed, tibiæ very much so, especially the posterior pair; tarsi slender, 5th joint much the longest.

AMASA THORACICA, n.sp.

Of a short oblong form, shining and punctate. Head reddish-testaceous, minutely punctate, and with a medial line on the occiput, the mouth parts fringed with yellowish-white hairs. Thorax testaceous-red, very convex above, rough and minutely granulate and hairy in front, and densely and very minutely punctate all over. Elytra shining, dark reddish-piceous, not one and a half times as long, and slightly narrower than the thorax, lightly punctate in rows, with the intervening spaces extremely minutely punctate, abruptly truncated at a little more than half their length, with the retuse portion broad, margined all round, concave, finely punctate and hairy, fringed with hairs, and with

three elevated ridges on each side of the suture, extending the whole length of the retuse portion, all minutely granulate, the central one the widest. Undersurface of body piceous-red, minutely punctate and hairy. Legs testaceous, thin and flat, thighs moderately shining, tibiæ hairy, much flattened, especially the four posterior, minutely punctate and dentate, tarsi clear, shining, and thread-like ; antennæ clear testaceous. Length 3 mm.

Tamworth and Armidale.

The specimen I have from Armidale has the medial line on the head more distinctly marked, with the retuse portion of the elytra hairless and the granulated ridges more distinct.

I also obtained the following species at Tamworth :—

Rhizopertha elongatula, Macl., Mast. Cat. No. 3643.

R. gibbicollis, Macl., Mast. Cat. No. 3644.

Apate Linli, Blackb., P.L.S.N.S.W. 1889, p. 1263.

Bostrychus jesuita, Fabr., Mast. Cat. No. 3641.

B. bispinosus, Macl., Mast. Cat. No. 3639.

B. cylindricus, Macl., Mast. Cat. No. 3640.

This last also at Gosford and Sydney.